

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1251

EXDIS

FOR S/S

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR OVIP (MONDALE, VICE PRESIDENT WALTER)
SUBJECT: VORSTER-MONDALE MEETING

REF: STATE 099558

1. GIVEN BELOW IS THE TEXT OF A LETTER FROM FOREIGN MINISTER
MWALE TO SECRETARY VANCE, DATED MAY 5 AND RECEIVED MAY 9,
IN RESPONSE TO THE SECRETARY'S LETTER OF MAY 3, 1977:

2. QUOTE: MY DEAR SECRETARY,

I AM MOST GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR YOUR MESSAGE OF MAY 3,
1977 WHICH WAS DELIVERED BY AMBASSADOR STEPHEN LOW IN PERSON
A FEW DAYS AGO.

I APPRECIATE YOUR DISAPPOINTMENT THAT DUE TO PRESSURE OF
WORK AND OTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN OUR PART OF AFRICA, HIS
EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA, DR.
KENNETH D. KAUNDA'S PROPOSED VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICAN HAS HAD TO BE POSTPONED INDEFINITELY. I HAD LOOKED
FORWARD TO ACCOMPANYING PRESIDENT KENNETH D. KAUNDA IN ORDER
TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY OF MAKING YOUR ACQUAINTANCE AND
EXCHANGING VIEWS ON BILATERAL AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES, IN
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PARTICULAR THOSE PERTAINING TO THE UNFOLDING EVENTS IN SOUTHERN
AFRICA. HOWEVER, I DO HOPE THAT THIS WILL STILL BE POSSIBLE
IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE.

IN THE MEANTIME, WE ARE PLEASED THAT THE UNITED STATES
ADMINISTRATION OF PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER HAS NOT ONLY MAIN-
TAINED THE CONTACTS BUT HAS ALSO INITIATED RENEWED EFFORTS
TOWARDS A POSSIBLE NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT IN RHODESIA. IN

THIS RESPECT, WE ARE CERTAINLY INTERESTED IN THE OUTCOME OF THE PROPOSED MEETING BETWEEN VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE AND SOUTH AFRICAN PRIME MINISTER VORSTER IN VIENNA, AUSTRIA, DURING THE COMING WEEK OR SO.

AS YOU ARE, I AM SURE, ALREADY AWARE, ZAMBIA'S STAND ON THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN CRISIS HAS BEEN VERY CLEAR AND UNEQUIVOCAL. OVER THE YEARS, PRESIDENT KENNETH KAUNDA HAS SPEARHEADED A POSITIVE APPROACH BASED ON FIRM PRINCIPLES ON HUMAN DIGNITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE WHICH, UNFORTUNATELY, HAS RECEIVED LITTLE OR NO MEANINGFUL SUPPORT FROM THE WHITE MINORITY RACIST REGIMES OF IAN SMITH AND PRIME MINISTER VORSTER. FOR SEVERAL YEARS PRIOR TO THE BREAKDOWN OF THE VICTORIA FALLS DISCUSSIONS ON RHODESIA IN 1975, PRESIDENT KENNETH D. KAUNDA HAD STRICTLY ADHERED TO THE PEACEFUL SOLUTION EMBODIED IN THE LUSAKA MANIFESTO; ONLY TO BE DISAPPOINTED BY THE INTRANSIGENT MANOEUVRES OF REBEL LEADER IAN SMITH AND HIS HENCHMEN. ON NAMIBIA, A UNITED NATIONS' TERRITORY STILL ILLEGALLY ADMINISTERED BY SOUTH AFRICA AND, INDEED, ON THE APARTHEID ISSUE STILL RAGING WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF SOUTH AFRICA ITSELF, ZAMBIA HAD AGAIN ENDEAVOURED TO RENDER FULL SUPPORT TO A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT.

THE FAILURE OF DR. KISSINGER'S INITIATIVES AND OTHERS FEEBLY PURSUED BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AS THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA, HAVE LED TO OUR SUPPORT FOR INTENSIFIED ARMED STRUGGLE, AS CARRIED OUT BY THE NATIONALIST LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, AS THE ONLY MEANS LEFT OPEN TO THE OPPRESSED MASSES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA. IN OTHER WORDS, WHAT NOW EXISTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA IS A WAR SITUATION. BECAUSE OF THE CHANGED CIRCUMSTANCES, WE HOPE THAT THOSE WHO ARE

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GENUINELY INVOLVED IN TRYING TO FIND A SUITABLE SOLUTION WILL BEAR IN MIND THAT WHAT IS REQUIRED IN SOUTHERN AFRICA IS NOT MERELY A SERIES OF CONFERENCES. THE SITUATION WHICH IS ALREADY A THREAT TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY DEMANDS PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS IN WHICH THE WESTERN COUNTRIES, BECAUSE OF THEIR VESTED ECONOMIC INTERESTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, SHOULD MAKE POSITIVE MOVES IN ORDER TO BRING AN IMMEDIATE END TO THE SUFFERINGS OF THE BLACK MASSES, SO AS TO PROVIDE A BETTER FUTURE FOR ALL RACES IN THE LONG RUN. I AM OPTIMISTIC THAT GIVEN NOT ONLY THE GOODWILL BUT ALSO THE DETERMINATION OF YOUR GREAT COUNTRY, MAJORITY RULE WILL COME TO ZIMBABWE AND NAMIBIA AND THAT THE SCOURGE OF APARTHEID WILL BE ERADICATED FROM SOUTH AFRICA IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE. BUT TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE IN ORDER TO AVOID AN EXPLOSIVE RACIAL WAR COMPOUNDED BY EAST-WEST IDEOLOGICAL RIVALRY. ZAMBIA WOULD HATE TO SEE SOUTHERN AFRICA ENGULFED IN A NUCLEAR WAR. AS A PEACE-LOVING COUNTRY, WE LOATHE WAR AND CERTAINLY HAVE NO ROMANTIC VIEWS ABOUT IT.

I PERSONALLY LOOK FORWARD TO DISCUSSING WITH AMBASSADOR

ANDREW YOUNG THESE AND OTHER ISSUES OF MUTUAL INTEREST TO
OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

LASTLY, I WOULD LIKE TO ASSURE YOU THAT ZAMBIA WHICH
ENJOYS EXCELLENT RELATIONS WITH YOUR GREAT COUNTRY, WILL
ALWAYS BE WILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY PROJECTS BASED ON
THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES ON HUMAN RIGHTS.

SINCERELY YOURS,

D. SITEKE G. MWALE, MP
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

UNQUOTE.
CLINGERMAN

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